

Patent No. 5,548,506. It is respectfully submitted, however, that there are elements of the present invention that are not taught, implied or suggested by Barnes either alone or in combination with Srinivasan.

In particular, the present invention relates to a system for governing communications in a system once the available resources have been exceeded. More specifically, the present system enables a user to utilize the excess resources of a group, once the users own resources have been exhausted. Upon the group resources being exhausted, the communications ability may be terminated or restricted to specifically defined communications. See Specification, pg. 25, line 14 et seq.

Accordingly, claim 26 has been amended to recite, *inter alia*, "upon the group resource limit being exceeded, enabling one or more communications restrictions to be implemented, the restrictions including terminating communication between the electronic groupware communication server and the communication units and selectively enabling predetermined types of communications to continue." A clean copy of claim 26 is attached herewith.

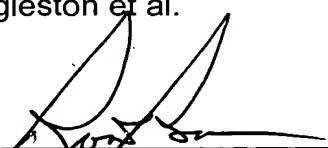
No amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicant has argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references

CONCLUSION

In light of the above claim amendment and subsequent remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, which allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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